Recovery of fees from patients in the General Hospital for X-ray examination.

8. *Mr. E. P. Varghese (*Nominated*) : Will the Government be pleased to state whether any fee is levied from patients who resort to the General Hospital, Trivandrum, for treatment, if X-ray examination becomes necessary for them ?

Mr. James Simpson : Yes, except from those who are certified to be too poor to pay by a Government Medical Officer or a qualified Medical Practitioner.

Mr. E. P. Varghese : What is the rate of fees charged ?

Mr. James Simpson : It varies from Rs. 2 to Rs. 8.

Mr. E. P. Varghese : May I know whether any fee is charged when X-ray examination is necessary for diagnosis ?

Mr. James Simpson : If the medical officer in charge of the case thinks that X-ray is going to help in diagnosis and treatment, he will certainly have it ; and if the patient can afford to pay he will be asked to pay.

Mr. E. P. Varghese : How is the ability to pay, of the patient, determined ?

Mr. James Simpson : We rely on the knowledge of medical officers about the patient. In case of doubt, the patient gets it free.

Communal claims in the matter of recruitment of Clerks in the Secretariat.

9. *Mr. E. P. Varghese :** Will the Government be pleased to state whether any communal rotation is adopted in the recruitment of clerks in the Secretariat ?

Rao Sahib Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai : The answer is in the negative.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai : May I know what, according to Government, is the community of an applicant ; is it the community in which he was born or the community to which he belongs on the date of the application ?

Rao Sahib Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai : The applicant gives the name of his community in his application ; and the Government ordinarily accept that.

Opening a dispensary between Shertallai and Alleppey.

10. **Mr. E. P. Varghese :** Will the Government be pleased to state whether there have been demands for the opening of a dispensary mid-way between Shertallai and Alleppey ?

Mr. James Simpson : Yes.

Mr. E. P. Varghese : May I know what steps have been taken in that direction ?

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